

State of Alaska FY2003 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Public Safety Search and Rescue Component Budget Summary

Component: Search and Rescue

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Component Mission

The mission of the Division of Alaska State Troopers is to preserve the public peace and to protect life and property.

Component Services Provided

The Alaska State Troopers are the only agency within the state that has statutory authority to conduct search and rescue operations for lost and missing, as well as deceased persons. Unlike criminal, traffic law enforcement and investigations where the Alaska State Troopers provide some technical expertise and support to areas that have their own police departments, search and rescue services are the exclusive domain of the Alaska State Troopers for all state and most federal lands. In this particular area, as in the court service area, the roles are somewhat reversed, wherein AST does receive some assistance from local agencies, but is responsible for the function even in municipalities.

Search and rescue services include response to rescue situations, conducting search operations, coordinating various agencies and private persons involved in search efforts, funding aircraft for search missions, providing logistical support and technical expertise in the various aspects of search and rescue. This includes search management and planning, resource utilization, and the training of volunteer resources.

Component Goals and Strategies

The goal of Search and Rescue is to reduce loss of life, minimize injury to Alaska's citizens or visitors, and recover remains of deceased in a timely manner to minimize the grief suffered by the families involved.

Key Component Issues for FY2002 – 2003

By definition Search and Rescue (SAR) missions are not predictable, but require an immediate emergency response to assure public safety. If expenses related to SAR activity exceeds available funds, additional funds will be requested; as policy, AST's search and rescue decisions will not be based upon availability of funds, but upon the likelihood of mission success under acceptable search conditions.

Maritime searches involving Coast Guard helicopters are not billed to AST, but inland searches involving National Guard helicopters are quite expensive if billed to AST.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2001

This component tracks the number of lives saved, deaths, and persons not found.

- 365 lives saved
- 26 deaths
- 12 persons not found

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

- 1) DPS - Powers and duties of the department (AS 44.41.020)
- 2) Search & Rescue (AS 18.60.120-175)

Search and Rescue

Component Financial Summary

All dollars in thousands

	FY2001 Actuals	FY2002 Authorized	FY2003 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
72000 Travel	19.2	66.6	66.6
73000 Contractual	84.2	149.3	913.0
74000 Supplies	214.7	117.2	159.1
75000 Equipment	3.0	0.0	0.0
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	321.1	333.1	1,138.7
Funding Sources:			
1003 General Fund Match	20.0	0.0	0.0
1004 General Fund Receipts	301.1	283.1	1,138.7
1053 Investment Loss Trust Fund	0.0	50.0	0.0
Funding Totals	321.1	333.1	1,138.7

Estimated Revenue Collections

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2001 Actuals	FY2002 Authorized	FY2002 Cash Estimate	FY2003 Governor	FY2004 Forecast
<u>Unrestricted Revenues</u>						
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unrestricted Total		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<u>Restricted Revenues</u>						
Investment Loss Trust Fund	51393	0.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0
Restricted Total		0.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0
Total Estimated Revenues		0.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0

Search and Rescue

Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2003

Alaska leads the nation in per capita backcountry avalanche accidents. In the past three years approximately 24 Alaskans have died in snow avalanches. The Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska State Troopers, is requesting \$750.0 GF in the FY2003 Governor's budget for the re-establishment of an Alaska Avalanche Warning Center and public education.

Summary of Component Budget Changes

From FY2002 Authorized to FY2003 Governor

All dollars in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2002 Authorized	283.1	0.0	50.0	333.1
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-Convert Investment Loss Trust Fund to General Funds	50.0	0.0	-50.0	0.0
Proposed budget increases:				
-Fuel Cost Increases	55.6	0.0	0.0	55.6
-Avalanche Warning System & Public Education	750.0	0.0	0.0	750.0
FY2003 Governor	1,138.7	0.0	0.0	1,138.7